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TELEGRAM

Approved

Request for comment of State Dept. on US policy towards Turkey

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RMR

FROM: Ankara

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 240, August 16, 1961

PRIORITY

ACTION DEPARTMENT 240, INFORMATION

Embassy informed Foreign Minister Sarper on August 12 that Sarper advised him that the Department would be approved. Department will receive a formal note from Sarper on August 15. Sarper advised Embassy February 1961 request for such commercial overflights had been delayed. Embassy has contacted Foreign Ministry at level with following result:

Soviets apparently provoked Turkey's request, filed formal note July 1961 Moscow-Cairo. Apparently would end in Ankara-Inebolu-Ankara-Silivris. Third Department official said no reciprocal but US official has report DIRGEN Third Department. (Soviet Embassy officer approval would be required. To be worked out and flights should be requested.)

Foreign Office view Article 11 of the Convention requires concurrence. Failure could involve diplomatic and economic relations. Convention and result undesirable. Foreign Ministry in position GOT requesting reciprocal rights and obligations to implement foreseeable future.

Curious that despite close relations GOT and Foreign US interest above subject per reference despatch Foreign Service officials including

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2-24-0 August 10, 1950

Including Foreign Min and other officials. I am frequent opportunity recent weeks to discuss my official request. I inclined believe Sarper's visit to Ankara was delicate and probably that matter discussed earlier between as well as Gursel by Kiliç during his recent call. And therefore existence apparent compulsion heavily favorable of Dr. Gürsel's government assuming office.

I am seeking appointment Sarper soonest. This issue particularly in light Turkish failure keep Embassy advised when GOT entirely aware keen US interest. Will advise developments.

HARE

MLJ/6

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